

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 6, 2020

Judith C. Whitney Clerk of the Commission Vermont Public Utility Commission 112 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Re: Advance Notice for a Proposed 500 kW Solar Project to be Located on the Closed Landfill at 80 Pine Street in the Town of Bristol, Vermont.

Introduction

On behalf of Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op, based in Middlebury VT (the "Applicant"), Aegis Renewable Energy, Inc. ("Aegis"), a Vermont corporation, is pleased to submit this 45-day advance notice for a proposed 500 kW (AC)¹ community net metered solar electric generating facility to be located on the closed municipal landfill at 80 Pine Street, Bristol, Vermont (the "Project"). The Applicant intends to file a Section 8010 application ("Application") with the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("Commission") and is providing this advance notice to all those entitled to advance notice under Commission Rule 5.107(B)(1). We have searched the ACT250 database located here: https://anrweb.vt.gov/anr/vtanr/Act250.aspx and there do not appear to be any ACT250 permits associated with this site.

This advance notice: (1) describes the Project; (2) provides a preliminary assessment of potential Project environmental and aesthetic impacts; and (3) explains how comments regarding the Project can be filed with Aegis and the Commission. Also included with this advance notice are the following attachments:

- A. Location Map
- B. Conceptual Site Plan
- C. Solar Module & Inverter Specifications

I. <u>Project Description</u>

A. Project Site

The proposed Project will be located on Bristol's closed landfill located at 80 Pine Street in Bristol, Vermont. The ballast mounted array will cover approximately 2.43 acres. The fenced area surrounding the array will enclose approximately 3.10 acres of the landfill, which is a 12.34 acre parcel of land. The parcel is owned by the Town of Bristol and is identified as

¹ The size of the system may be less than or equal to 500 kW (AC) depending on the results of the System Impact Study.



parcel number 060153 in the Town of Bristol land records.

B. Description of the Solar Facility

The proposed Project will be a 500 kW (AC) ground-mounted solar electric generation facility consisting of fixed racking, solar panels ("modules"), inverters, and other associated equipment. Final Project size may be less than or equal to 500 kW (AC) depending on the results of the Project's System Impact Study.

Using standard construction practices, galvanized steel posts (the "racking") will be set into cast-in-place concrete above-ground ballasts. The Project will not penetrate the earthen landfill cap. The racking will hold the modules at a fixed angle of 30 degrees in order to maximize solar radiance collection and will be installed in approximately Sixteen (16) rows ranging in length from 83 feet to 270 feet.

Approximately 1,862 Boviet 400 Watt solar modules (or equivalent) will be installed on top of the racking. The modules will be connected to four (4) Sungrow 125kW (or equivalent) inverters. The inverters will be mounted below the racking or on a separate back panel adjacent to the solar array. See Attachment C – Solar Module & Inverter Specifications for more detailed information about the modules and inverters.

Year-round, daily Project access is not required. Therefore, no on-site septic or water supply systems will be constructed. The Project will be monitored remotely and if any unexpected conditions develop, Aegis technicians will be dispatched.

After 25 years a decision will be made as to whether to continue operating the Project as is or with new equipment or whether to decommission it. When the Project is no longer in service, it will be removed and the site will be restored to its condition prior to installation of the Project to the greatest extent practicable in accordance with Commission Rule 5.904(A).

Attachment B - Conceptual Site Plan demonstrates the current Project proposal. The Application will include a Final Site Plan. The Final Site Plan may be different from the Conceptual Site Plan, depending on the results of the System Impact Study.

C. Site Access and Equipment Delivery

The Project site will be accessed via a dirt road at the west end of Pine Street. Typical tractor trailer and box truck vehicles will be used to transport materials to the Project site for construction. In-state roads most likely to be used for delivery include: Pine Street, West Street (Rte. 116), North Street, and Liberty Street. The completed Project will not alter or impede access to the existing gravel and equipment storage area currently being utilized by the Bristol public works department.

II. Preliminary Impact Assessment



A. Environmental Impact

Prior to filing the CPG petition, an in-depth environmental analysis will be conducted. However, based on an initial environmental impact review, the Project will avoid impacts to environmental resources because of its location on a closed municipal landfill. In sum:

- The Project will be located in the disturbed portion of a recently closed town landfill.
- The Project will not adversely impact wildlife habitat, endangered species, or rare and irreplaceable natural areas.
- The solar array foundations/ballast will be concrete poured in place, above existing ground level. These foundations require no excavation.
- All electrical conductors will either be routed overhead or above ground on concrete sleepers.
- The array perimeter will be fenced in accordance with National Electric Safety Code requirements and fence posts will not penetrate through the landfill's earthen cap.
- There will be no contour grading done at the site.
- We are advised by the engineer who designed the landfill that it is not capped with a membrane. The cap is strictly earthen on top of compacted solid waste.
- It is unlikely that the Project will require any municipal services (fire, police, water/sewer), and it will not impact the ability of the Town to provide educational services. In fact, the Project management has volunteered to provide Project energy production data to the Mt. Abraham Union High School for use by teachers and students in order to enhance the educational services.

See Attachment B – Conceptual Site Plan for a visualization of natural resources in the Project area. Aegis will provide additional environmental impact information in its Application.

B. Aesthetic Impact

The proposed Project will not have an undue adverse impact on the aesthetics of the area. This is due to naturally existing screening provided by forested areas between the array and all properties adjoining the site. The landfill's elevation above an existing town nature trail obscures the majority of the project site from most sections of the trail. See Attachment A – Location Map for the Project's proposed location. An in-depth aesthetics assessment will be submitted with the Application.

C. Archaeological or Historical Impact

Based on a preliminary review, and the fact that the Project is entirely within the extents of the disturbed portion of the landfill, we do not anticipate the Project impacting archaeological or historic resources. A more detailed analysis will be provided in the CPG Application.

III. Opportunities to File Inquiries or Comments

You may file any inquiries or comments with Aegis about the proposed Project within 45 days of the date of this letter. Below is my contact information:

Address	Nils Behn, CEO
	Aegis Renewable Energy, Inc.



	340 Mad River Park, Suite 6 Waitsfield, VT 05673
Phone	802-560-0055
Email	nbehn@aegis-re.com

You will also have an opportunity to file comments with the Commission once the Application is filed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We welcome your input and suggestions to make this Project a success.

IV. <u>Informational Meeting and Site Visit for Adjoining Landowners</u>

Aegis will be holding an informational conference call on **Thursday April 9th at 5:30 PM** for all adjoining landowners who wish to participate. If questions require the call to go longer, we will stay on to answer all questions. The call-in number is 1-559-546-1200 and the access code is 197-595-705#. Nils Behn, Aegis' founder, will host the call, explain the Project's goals and take questions. Representatives of the Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op will also be in attendance.

Sincerely,

Nils Behn, CEO

Aegis Renewable Energy, Inc. 340 Mad River Park, Suite 6 Waitsfield, VT 05673

802-560-0055

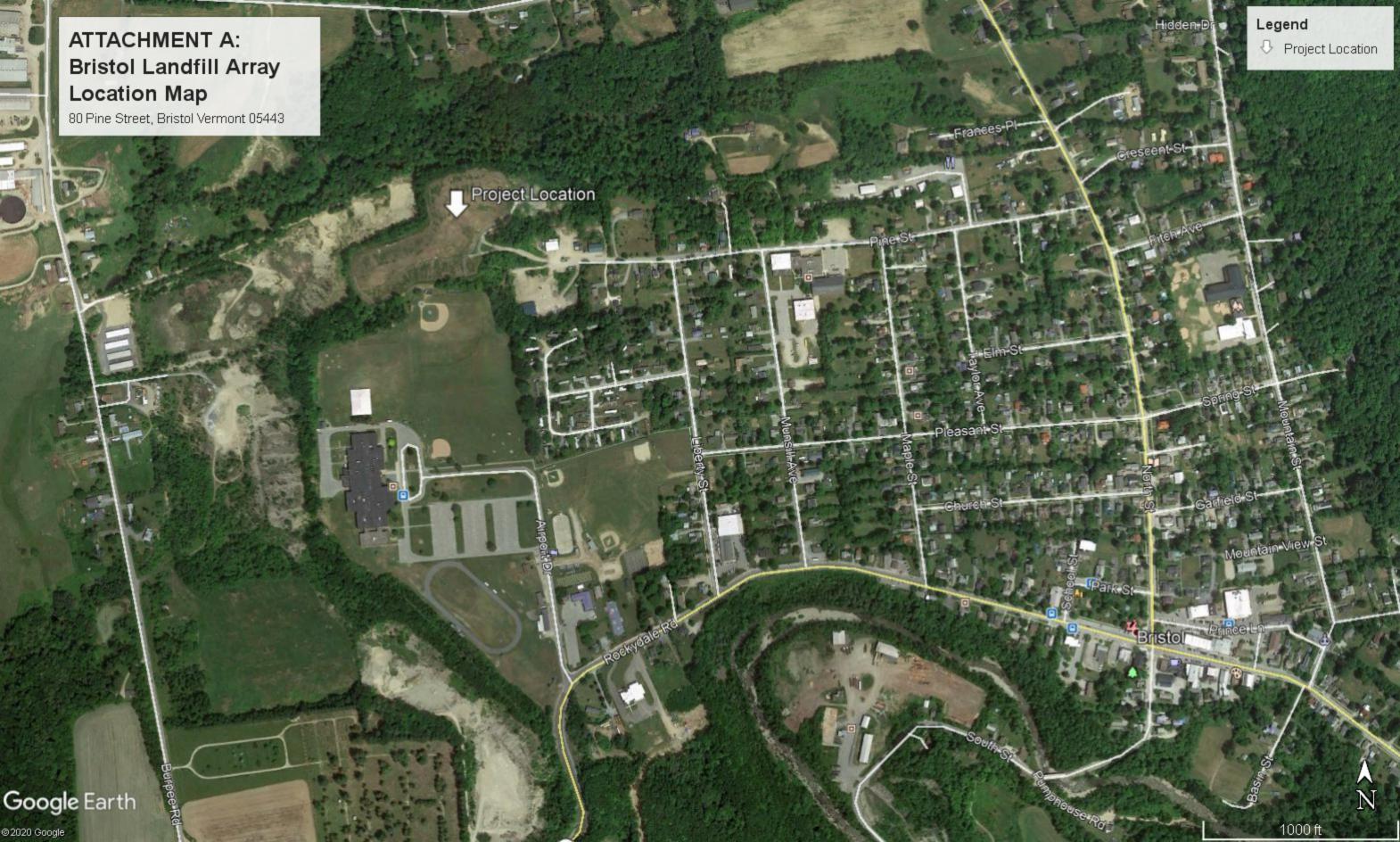
nbehn@aegis-re.com

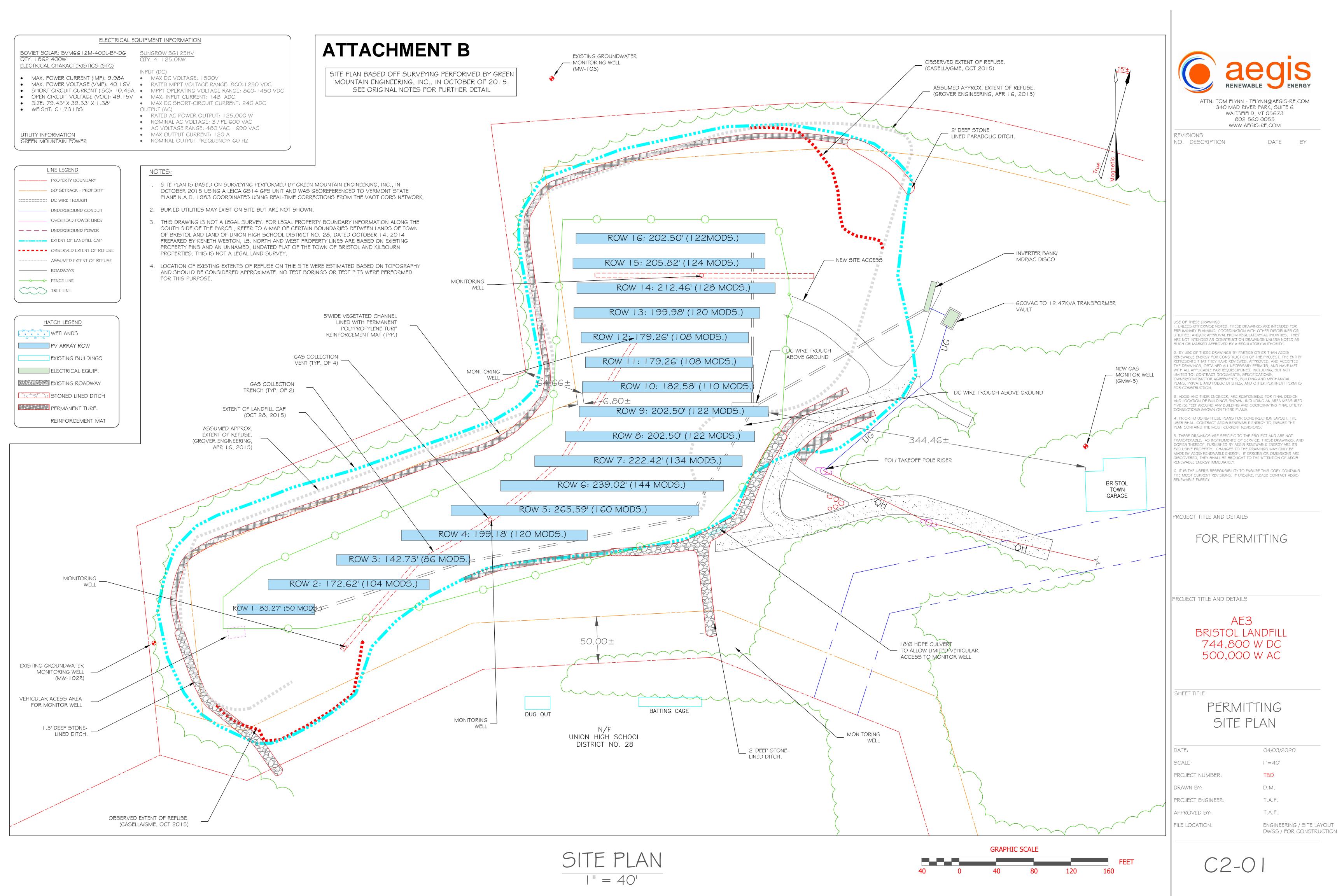
Attachments: Certificate of Service

Attachment A – Property Location Map Attachment B – Conceptual Site Plan

Attachment C – Solar Module & Inverter Specifications

cc: Greg Pahl, President, Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op.





SG125HV



String Inverter for 1500 Vdc System



HIGH YIELD

- Patented five-level topology, max. efficiency 98.9 %, European efficiency 98.7 %, CEC efficiency 98.5 %
- Full power operation without derating at 50 ℃
- · Patented anti-PID function

SAVED INVESTMENT

- DC 1500V,AC 600V, low system initial investment
- 1 to 5MW power block design for lower AC transformer and labor cost
- Max.DC/AC ratio up to 1.5

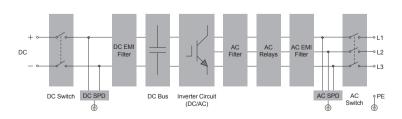
EASY O&M

- · Virtual central solution, easy for O&M
- Compact design and light weight for easy installation

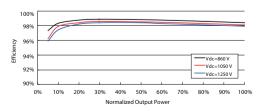
GRID SUPPORT

- Compliance with both IEC and UL safety,EMC and grid support regulations
- Low/High voltage ride through(L/HVRT)
- Active & reactive power control and power ramp rate control

CIRCUIT DIAGRAM



EFFICIENCY CURVE





Type designation	SG125HV
Input (DC)	
Max. PV input voltage	1500 V
Min. PV input voltage / Start-up input voltage	860 V / 920 V
Nominal PV input voltage	1050 V
MPP voltage range	860 – 1450 V
MPP voltage range for nominal power	860 – 1250 V
No. of independent MPP inputs	1
No. of DC inputs	1
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Max. PV input current	148 A
Max. DC short-circuit current	250 A
Output (AC)	
AC output power	125 kVA @ 50 ℃
Max. AC output current	120 A
Nominal AC voltage	3 / PE, 600 V
AC voltage range	480 – 690 V
Nominal grid frequency / Grid frequency range	50 Hz / 45 – 55 Hz, 60 Hz / 55 – 65 Hz
THD	< 3 % (at nominal power)
DC current injection	< 0.5 % In
Power factor at nominal power / Adjustable power factor	
Feed-in phases / connection phases	3/3
·	373
Efficiency	
Max. efficiency / European efficiency	98.9% / 98.7%
CEC efficiency	98.5%
Protection	
DC reverse connection protection	Yes
AC short-circuit protection	Yes
Leakage current protection	Yes
Grid monitoring	Yes
DC switch	Yes
AC switch	Yes
Q at night function	optional
Anti-PID function	Yes
Overvoltage protection	DC Type II / AC Type II
General Data	= - 12 k = 11, 1 = 12 k = 11
Dimensions (W*H*D)	670*902*296 mm 26.4"*35.5"*11.7"
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Weight	76 kg 167.5 lb
Isolation method	Transformerless
Degree of protection	IP 65 NEMA 4X
Night power consumption	< 4 W
Operating ambient temperature range	-30 to 60 °C (> 50 °C derating) -22 to 140 °F (> 122 °F derating)
Allowable relative humidity range (non-condensing)	0 – 100 %
Cooling method	Smart forced air cooling
Max. operating altitude	4000 m (> 3000 m derating) 13123 ft (> 9843 ft derating)
Display / Communication	LED, Bluetooth+APP / RS485
DC connection type	OT or DT terminal (Max. 185 mm² 350 Kcmil)
AC connection type	OT or DT terminal (Max. 185 mm² 350 Kcmil)
Compliance	UL1741, UL1741SA, IEEE1547, IEEE1547.1, CSA C22.2 107.1-01-2001, FCC Part15
	Sub-part B Class A Limits, California Rule 21, IEC 62109-1/-2, IEC 61000-6-2/-4
	IEC 61727, IEC62116, BDEW, EN50549, VDE-AR-N 4110:2018, VDE-AR-N 4120:201
	UNE 206007-1:2013, P.O.12.3, UTE C15-712-1:2013, CEI 0-16:2017, IEC 61683, PEA
	NTCO
Grid Support	LVRT, HVRT, ZVRT, active & reactive power regulation, PF control, soft start,
CITIC SUDDUIL	LVKI, IIVKI, ZVKI, active a reactive power regulation, PF Control, Soft Start,





Advancing the Power of the Sun

Bificial Module 385-400W

BVM6612M(L)-(SERIES)BF-DG

0~+5W

Power Tolerance

19.8%

Maximum Efficiency

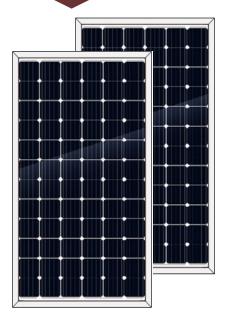
385-400W

Power Output Range



High Quality and Reliable Modules

- ◆Double-sided glass technology, more power generation
- Withstand up to 5400 Pa snow load and 2400 Pa wind load
- 2 EL inspections per cell/module for defect-free consistency
- ◆ Type 1 fire-rating per UL 1703 edition 3
- High salt and ammonia resistance certified by TUV Rheinland
- 0~+5 W guaranteed positive tolerance
- Rugged design for long-term durability; passed extended reliability tests



39.45x79.33 Inches

Silver Frame / Double-sided glass



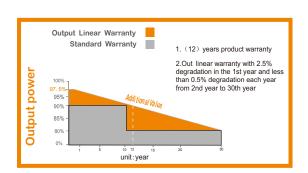
Warranty

- 12-year product warranty
- 30-year linear power output warranty



Comprehensive Certificates for Products and Management

- ◆ UL 1703, IEC 61215, IEC 61730, CEC listed, MCS and CE
- ◆ ISO 9001 for Quality Management Systems
- ◆ ISO 14001 for Environmental Management Systems
- OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Systems



Listed in Bloomberg New Energy Finance's tier 1 list as of 1Q 2018











Electrical Characteristics STC						
	BVM6612M-385L-BF-DG	BVM6612M-390L-BF-DG	BVM6612M-395L-BF-DG	BVM6612M-400L-BF-DG		
Maximum Power (Pmax)	385W	390W	395W	400W		
Maximum Power Current (Imp)	9.74A	9.82A	9.90A	9.98A		
Maximum Power Voltage (Vmp)	39.60V	39.79V	39.98V	40.16V		
Short Circuit Current (Isc)	10.26A	10.33A	10.42A	10.45A		
Open Circuit Voltage (Voc)	48.45V	48.65V	48.85V	49.15V		
Module Efficiency	19.1%	19.3%	19.6%	19.8%		
Power Tolerance	0~+5W	0~+5W	0~+5W	0~+5W		
STC: AM1.5, Irradiance 1000W/m², 25°C						

Electrical Characteristics NOCT				
	BVM6612M-385L-BF-DG	BVM6612M-390L-BF-DG	BVM6612M-395L-BF-DG	BVM6612M-400L-BF-DG
Maximum Power (Pmax)	284W	286W	290W	295W
Maximum Power Current (Imp)	7.77A	7.81A	7.86A	7.93A
Maximum Power Voltage (Vmp)	36.6V	36.7V	36.9V	37.20V
Short Circuit Current (Isc)	8.26A	8.33A	8.40A	8.47A
Open Circuit Voltage (Voc)	45.2V	45.5V	45.8V	46.1V

NOCT: AM1.5, Irradiance 800W/m², 20°C, Wind speed 1m/s

Mechanical Ch	aracteristics	Thermal Characteristics		
Solar Cell	Bificial-Monocrystalline 6.25 x 6.25 inch, 72 (6 x 12) pcs. in series	Pmax Temperature Coefficient	-0.38%/K	
Double glass	2.5mm AR coating tempered glass+2.5mm Semi-tempered glass,low iron	Voc Temperature Coefficient	-0.30%/K	
Frame	Anodized aluminum alloy	Isc Temperature Coefficient	+0.06%/K	
Junction Box	Ip67 rated, with 3 bypass diode	NOCT	113±3.6°F	
Output Cable	4 mm² (EU)/12 AWG (US),15.76 inch			
Connector	MC4 compatible			
Dimension	79.33x39.45x1.38 Inches			
Weight	61.73lb			

Maximum Ratings		Packing Information		
Operating Temperature	-40°F~185°F	Pieces per pallet	30	
Maximum Series Fuse Rating	20A	Pallets per container (40HQ)	22	
Maximum System Voltage	1000/1500V DC	Pieces per container (40HQ)	660	
	Pallet weight/size 1918 lb/80.66 x 43.31 x 4		3.31 x 45.88 inch	

Bifacial Output-Backside Power Gain

400/	Pmax (W)	423	429	434	440
10%	Module efficiency (%)	20.91	21.21	21.45	21.75
20%	Pmax (W)	462	468	474	480
	Module efficiency (%)	22.84	23.13	23.43	23.73

